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COMMENT OF
THE DAY

Urban Council

FOR those members of the public who crave drastic reform of the Urban Council, the new ordinance which was given its first reading on Wednesday will be disappointing. It must be remembered, however, that it was not the intention of the legislators to revise the constitution of the Council, but to streamline procedure governing elections.

In this respect the revised Ordinance is competent, without in any manner being startling. The two most interesting of the new provisions are the consolidation of the electoral roll, involving abolition of a three-part register, and the power of the Governor in Council to require a Council candidate to lodge a deposit, which, in the event of failure to obtain a certain percentage of the total poll, will be forfeited.

Consolidation of the electoral roll is sensible, and it will be labour-saving both for the Registrar and for those sections of the community who do not appear on the jury list yet can still obtain the right to vote. This may encourage a bigger poll at future elections.

REACTIONS to the deposit and forfeiture provisions are likely to vary. One danger of the imposition is that it might drive out of the election field independent candidates, leaving it clear for political groups and parties, whose aims are opposed and whose candidates, therefore, could not completely represent the will and desire of the electorate.

In its favour the system helps to protect the community from having thrust upon it candidates who know they possess no chance whatever of winning a popular vote, but who will, if there be no deterrents, insist on taking part in a costly election at virtually no personal expense.

The amended Urban Council Ordinance will raise no great objections, but in its present form it will not produce general satisfaction. Still requiring attention is the question of an enlarged Council, its composition, and its future status. All this, it is presumed, will occupy the attention and consideration of Government during the coming months.

US AND "SUMMIT" TALKS

25 Out Of 44 Back Diem

Assembly Split

Saigon, May 5. Delegates from 25 of Vietnam's 44 provinces tonight gave full powers to the Premier, Ngo Dinh Diem, to end the present crisis, fight Communism and set up a National Assembly.

Mr. Diem, victor in a week-long battle with rebel warlords, had earlier been sent a resolution demanding the deposition of Bao Dai, the Head of State, which was passed by another meeting called here by the revolutionary junta led by General Nguyen Than Phuoc.

The provincial delegates, forming an elected National Assembly of about 975 members, were summoned by Mr. Diem, but were nearly split over attempts to preserve his autocratic powers.

HEATED DEBATE. After a heated debate they chose one member from each of the 44 provinces to carry on the debate in committee, and the morning session of the full congress was suspended.

But 21 of the chosen delegates—mostly from the southern part of Vietnam which has long opposed Mr. Diem's regime—walked out.

The congress, which did not reach a decision on Bao Dai, met in the Premier's palace. The junta's congress met in a small theatre on the shell-pocked Boulevard Gallieni.

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Opposition To Proposal Expected

FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING FIRST

Washington, May 5. The United States was reported to be ready today to oppose any eleventh-hour British moves to ask Russia for a Chiefs-of-State meeting before the Big Four Powers hold a parley of Foreign Ministers.

The US Secretary of State, Mr. John Foster Dulles, is expected to outline the United States position when he talks with his British and French opposite numbers in Paris beginning on Sunday.

The Eisenhower Administration is understood to feel that the reported British support for a top-level meeting first had a definite political touch.

It was pointed out that the British are holding elections on May 26. The idea of a "meeting at the summit" always has had more political appeal in Britain than in the United States.

"Things always look better over there from the summit," one official said.

Some officials believe that the Foreign Secretary, Mr. Harold Macmillan, at Paris next week will not press too long or too hard, if at all, for prior top-level talks. It was understood that the British had given their tacit approval to a three-power approach to the Soviets which would propose a Foreign Ministers' conference on European problems at an early date.

But they would accept this accord still must be accepted officially by Mr. Dulles, Mr. Macmillan and the French Foreign Minister, Mr. Antoine Pinay.

Reports that Sir Anthony had switched his position from Foreign Ministers to Chiefs-of-State talks as a first move to ease tensions were received here some time ago. Officials were surprised at this because Sir Anthony, when he was Foreign Secretary, told the House of Commons on March 28, that the procedure for talking with the Russians included a meeting "at the Foreign Ministers' level" first and possibly at other levels as well at a later date.

Because of strains on American-British relations over the Far Eastern crisis as well as the forthcoming British elections, the United States is not expected to take issue openly or violently with the British-United Press.

ATTITUDE UNCHANGED. Washington, May 5. The United States still believes that the Big Four Foreign Secretaries should meet to prepare groundwork ahead of a meeting "at the summit," a State Department spokesman said today.

The spokesman, Mr. Lincoln White, was asked to comment on press reports that Britain suggested that the leaders of Britain, France and the United States should meet with the Premier of the Soviet Union without a preparatory meeting of Foreign Ministers.

Mr. White said he could not comment on that matter and when asked if the United States had changed its earlier stand that a Foreign Ministers' meeting should precede a higher level conference he replied: "As far as I know the United States position has not changed. I think both the Secretary of State and the President have spoken on this subject quite exhaustively and I know of no change in attitude."—Reuter.

BAN ON JEWS

Cairo, May 5. All Jews who have had contacts with Israel or who have worked for Israel will, in future, be banned from all the Arab countries, it was announced here today.

This decision was taken by a Pan-Arabian Conference just held in Damascus on boycotting Israel, the Arab League Secretariat announced.

In future, said the League, all Jews expelled from one of the Arab countries will be automatically excluded from the others.—France-Press.

Indonesia Said Willing To Mediate Over Formosa

Djakarta, May 5. The Indonesian Information Minister, Dr. Lumbang Tobing, when interviewed on Indonesian press reports that the Djakarta government had offered her good services in the Formosa problem, said that Indonesia's preparedness to mediate if requested to do so would be in line with the spirit of the Afro-Asian conference.

Political circles in Djakarta thought that Indonesia seriously considered to offer her mediation. They pointed to the facts that the Indonesian Ambassador in the United States, Moekarto Notowidigdo, who was on a trip on the west coast, was called back to Washington and that the Indonesian Ambassador to Peking, Arnold Mononutu, who flew to Djakarta with Premier Chou En-lai, would soon return to Peking.

NEW WONDER PLANE

Washington, May 5. A plane which can convert itself in flight from a helicopter to a conventional aircraft and back again has been produced in the United States, it was disclosed today.

Known as the XV-1 Convertiplane, it uses an overhead rotor like that of a normal helicopter to take off vertically.

Upon gaining height, power is shifted from the rotor to a pusher-type propeller behind the pilot's compartment. The machine then moves forward like a conventional aircraft with the overheard rotor "windmilling."

The XV-1 can carry three passengers or two stretchers cases and a medical attendant in addition to the pilot.—Reuter.

QUEMOY AREA BARRAGE

Taipei, May 5. Communist Chinese guns today shelled the offshore island of Quemoy held by the Chinese Nationalists, the Nationalist Defence Ministry reported.

The Ministry said that 11 rounds fell onto the island from Llenho on the Chinese mainland, causing no casualties or damage. Communist guns on Amoy tonight fired more than 150 rounds at Little Quemoy, a sister island two miles west of Quemoy which is off the Chinese mainland, the Nationalist Defence Ministry added. The communiqué said the bombardment lasted 45 minutes.—France-Press.

Cause Of Raid False Alarm

Oakland, Calif., May 5. A "yellow" air raid alert, implying that an attack was expected, was broadcast in seven Western states today before it was discovered to be a mistake.

The air force blamed a delay in properly identifying American bombers flying in from the Pacific. The first report that unidentified planes were approaching came from a Canadian radar station.

The continental air defence command at Colorado Springs, had been notified of the flight by B-47 jet bombers, but a communications delay in the air defence system prevented the word from reaching Western air defence units in time, the Air Force said.

The jet bombers were taking part in training exercises along the West coast, it added.

The "yellow" alert was cancelled a few minutes after it was issued.—Reuter.

PLEAD GUILTY TO TREASON

Paphos, Cyprus, May 5. Nine supporters of Enosis—Union of Cyprus with Greece—faced a maximum sentence of life imprisonment today after they pleaded guilty to their trial to a charge of promoting a change in the Cyprus government by force.

Two accused men pleaded guilty to having unlawfully imported explosives into Cyprus, and the remaining men were acquitted.—France-Press.

The Aga Khan's Life Story

In tomorrow's week-end edition of the China Mail, the Begum Aga Khan tells the story of her life with the Aga Khan, his family and his friends.

This is one of the many feature highlights you will find in the big 20-page Saturday Mail.

Giles who took an enforced holiday during the recent London newspaper strike makes a triumphant return to his usual corner. Here are some other special features appearing in the paper:

★ Peace and Pandemonium: these are the words which will influence the coming General Election, says Derek Marks.
★ Mr. Howe, of London, disappeared for 17 years and then returned—one of the world's strangest stories by Peter Jackson.
★ Raymond Chandler confesses: René MacColl reveals some of the secrets of the famous author of "The Big Sleep" and other detective thrillers.

In addition there are film reviews by Jane Roberts, three pages of local and overseas pictures, week-end women's news including a review of new Italian fashions in London, short stories, another "Did It Happen?" story and your other favourite features—all in the China Mail.

Incharran Was Fired On By Junks

An official statement issued by the Government Public Relations Office this morning states that the 3,529-ton Incharran, managed by Williamson & Co. Ltd., Hongkong, reported at 11.40 a.m. on Wednesday she was stopped by two motor junks firing at her, and subsequently reported being boarded.

Nothing further has been heard from the Incharran. At the time the ship was some ten miles south of White Horse, and was bound for Shanghai from Fuzhou.

As far as is known, no deaths or casualties were sustained.

Cut In US Forces Approved

Washington, May 5. The Appropriations Committee of the House of Representatives today approved government plans to reduce the number of troops in the armed forces of the United States.

The plan calls for the slashing of troops in the United States armed forces by 102,000 men between June, 1955 and June, 1956.

If the cut is approved by the House and Senate, the US armed forces will consist of 2,853,000 men in June 1955 against 2,954,000 men in June of this year.

Emphasis will be placed on modern weapons and air power in the new "atomic" army.

New Appropriations Committee report that the number of civilians in the army will be reduced from 1,181,000 to 1,171,000 over the same period.

The committee also voted a bill providing \$31,468,206,000 in new appropriations for United States defence for the 1955 fiscal year.

The appropriations, added to money left over from the present year, will provide a total of \$43,081,000,000 for the Department of Defence for the next fiscal year, if approved by the House and Senate.

The amount of appropriations voted by the committee represented a reduction of \$744,808,000 in the amount originally asked for by President Eisenhower.

The committee report declared, however, that it would vote additional funds if the world situation worsened.—France-Press.

Conant Appointed

Washington, May 5. The Senate Foreign Relations Committee today unanimously approved Mr. James B. Conant to be Ambassador to the new Republic of West Germany.—Reuter.

NO RESPONSE

The Associated Press sought from the Hungarian Foreign Ministry information as to his whereabouts. Early in March the Ministry referred the inquiry to the United States Legation in Budapest which was told only to report rumours that Dr. Marton was being detained by the Hungarian authorities.

Efforts to learn the nature of the charges against Dr. Marton had been unavailing, the agency said. The Foreign Ministry had not responded to several letters and messages in the past two months.

Dr. Marton, 44, is a Hungarian national. He was educated in England and at the Budapest University.—Reuter.

Exile Decision Is Final

London, May 5. Mr. Arthur Dods Parker, Commonwealth Under-Secretary, reiterated today that the decision to exile Sir George Khams from Bechuanaland was final.

Mr. Parker, of the Labour Party, had asked if the decision that the banishment should be permanent could be reconsidered.

He said the original period of five years' banishment was now up and the Bechuanaland tribe still wanted him back.

Mr. Dods Parker said he had nothing to add to a reply he gave to the same question last December, when he said the decision was final.—China Mail Special.

Secret Marriage Poses Divorce Problem

London, May 5. The London Divorce Court ruled today that a decree absolute granted to the Marquis of Bath and the former Marchioness in 1953 did not apply to their secret marriage 28 years ago.

The court said it referred only to their big society wedding at a wartime church in the London West End a year later.

Both parties have since remarried and the presiding judge, Lord Merriman, said he was not at all sure about the situation.

The secret marriage was brought to light recently in a book of reminiscences by the wife, now Mrs. Alexander Fielding.

Lord Merriman today rejected an application by the former Marchioness to have the decree absolute amended to cover both marriages.

Lord and Lady Bath concealed their first marriage at St. Paul's Church in the West End of London on October 8, 1925, because it was strongly opposed by their respective families, the judge said.

He was then heir to the title and she was Miss Daphne Vivian, daughter of the fourth Lord Vivian.

THE FIRST WEDDING

The judge said today that in her petition for divorce the former Marchioness had said that she was married at St. Martin's and the certificate for that wedding described them as spinster and bachelor.

No relatives or friends appeared to have attended the first secret marriage and a month later the husband left for America as previously arranged. By the time he returned in 1927 family opposition had been withdrawn but they decided not to inform their families that they were already married because of the trouble and distress it might cause.

They became officially engaged and entered into various settlements which involved very substantial transfers of property.

Although the judge did not have Lord Bath's views on the subject, the former Marchioness had said that she came to look at the St. Martin's marriage as the valid marriage and when she took divorce proceedings she naturally had that ceremony in mind, giving no thought to the earlier marriage.

The matter only came to the notice of her solicitors after she had published her book.

PRECISION ESSENTIAL. Any false information she may have given in the past regarding her marriage and divorce might be for consideration by others, the judge said.

(Contd. on back page, Col. 1)

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MARSHAL ZHUKOV

ZHUKOV GOING TO BERLIN

Berlin, May 5. Marshal Georgi Zhukov, "Liberator of Berlin" and Minister of the Armed Forces of the Soviet Union, will attend ceremonies in the East sector of the city on Sunday to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the city's liberation. It was stated here tonight.

General Feng Teh-hsiang, Minister of Defence of the Communist Chinese Government as well as a large number of high-ranking officers of the "popular democracies" are expected to attend the ceremonies.

Zhukov will go on to Warsaw for the Communist nine-power conference, which according to recent official declarations, is to consider political and military counter-measures to offset the ratification of the Paris Agreements by the nations of Western Europe.—France-Press.

Chile Rejects British Proposal

Santiago, May 5. The Chilean Government tonight rejected a British proposal to submit the question of sovereignty over the Antarctic territories to arbitration by the International Court at The Hague.

Chile has established four Antarctic bases, the last of which—Deception Island—was inaugurated this year. This led to a protest by the British Government that the move flouted existing agreements about the establishment of new bases in the region.

Chile is reported to have claimed sovereignty over the island dating back to the last century, and has considered setting up an air station there for flights to the South Pole.—Reuter.

DEATH KNELL OF SOVIET POLICY

Restoration Of West German Sovereignty DULLES JUBILANT

Washington, May 5. The restoration of West German sovereignty was hailed today by Mr John Foster Dulles, the United States Secretary of State, as the "death knell of Soviet policy" towards Western Europe. Mr Dulles said this during testimony before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in support of President Eisenhower's new \$3,530 million (\$1,260 million) global foreign aid programme.

"Today marks the death knell of Soviet policy pursued in Western Europe for the past ten years," he said.

"They now have to throw up their hands and admit they failed." "They have to find new policies," he went on. "They will put the best face they can on their defeat."

Mr Dulles suggested the changed Russian policy in Austria would give new hope to other captive peoples who wanted liberation.

He thought West German sovereignty would bring nearer the reunification of all Germany. Mr Dulles said plans for Austria called for neutralisation but he doubted that would suit the German situation.

FULL ENERGY Mr Harold Macmillan, new British Foreign Secretary, in an article published in Bonn said we shall devote our full energy "to the task of German reunification."

Mr Macmillan, writing in the Englishische Rundschau, official British publication in Germany, said: "The tragic fate of these European countries which have lost their freedom, like the 18 million Germans now in bondage—in the Soviet Zone, has taught the world a lesson of how quickly freedom can be lost and how difficult it is to regain."

The article, written on the occasion of West Germany becoming a sovereign power, stated: "We hope and believe that the new association of France and Germany will grow even closer and more friendly."

"We are pledged under the Paris agreements to work jointly with the Federal Government for German unity... not only because of our pledge, but because we are convinced that the problem of German unity lies at the heart of all our European problems."

"Peace and stability will never be assured until this great objective has been reached."

"Success does not depend on us alone, but we shall work for it untiringly."

"The Federal Republic has obtained freedom and sovereignty. We hope that through our joint efforts it will be possible to establish a free sovereign and re-united Germany. But this sovereignty and freedom must be real."

MOSCOW COMMENT A Moscow radio commentator said today the coming into force of the Paris agreements would create "a dangerous hotbed of aggression in Europe."

The commentator, Nikolay Molchaynov, said it was "characteristic that Western politicians are trying to represent the proposed inclusion of West Germany into the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation and the other steps as measures almost leading to the consolidation of peace and a relaxation of international tension."

"But what relaxation can there be when the West-German military clique are feverishly speeding up the rearmament of their country?"

Referring to the Moscow eight-power conference to consider the consolidation of the defences of Iron Curtain countries, Molchaynov said: "The coming into force of the Paris agreements and the intensified activity going on for their further materialisation, convincingly show how timely the implementation of decision taken at the Moscow conference."

Another commentator told Moscow radio listeners: "The deposition of the Paris agreements by the governments of the Western Powers completes a definite phase in the policy of arming Western Germany."

"The Bonn revisionists are now openly declaring that they have no intention of limiting themselves to the creation of a 500,000-strong army provided for by the Paris agreements."

"Two days before the deposition of the ratification instruments, the West German war department announced that besides the 12 divisions, additional land units are being set up which will consist of detachments armed and trained in conformity with the latest requirements of a modern war."

An English language broadcaster in the radio tonight said: "It is only natural that the Soviet Union and the countries centred around it will now have to re-examine the situation that has arisen in order to take the proper steps to ensure their security and safeguard peace in Europe."

"The countries that signed the Moscow declaration ensuring peace and security in Europe will meet for this purpose in Warsaw next Wednesday."—Reuter.

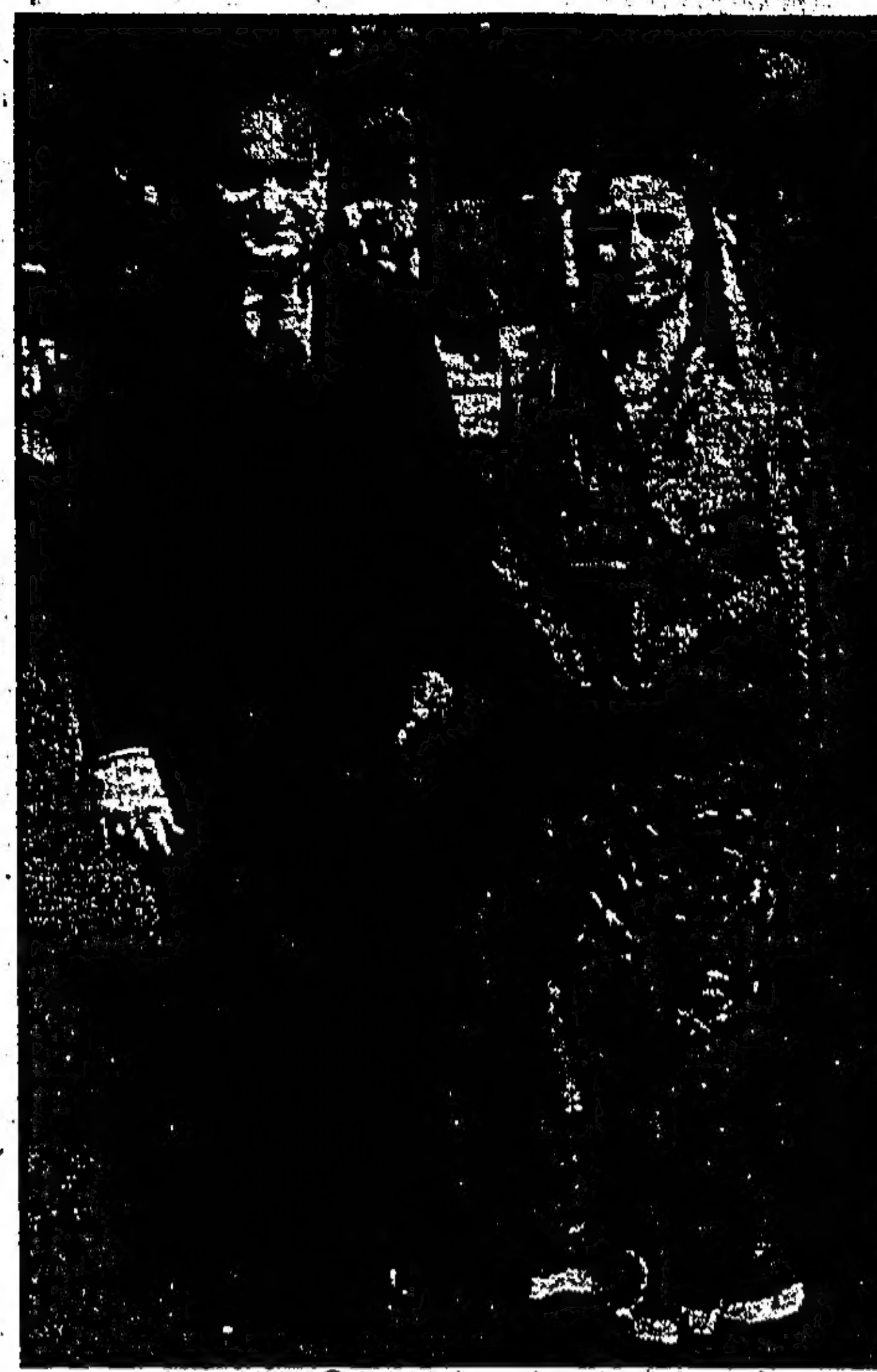
Japanese Delegation In Peking

London, May 5.

A 12-member agricultural delegation from Japan arrived in Peking this afternoon upon the invitation of the All-China Federation of Supply and Marketing Co-operatives and the China Peace Committee, the New China News Agency reported.

The head of the delegation, Mr Horioka, in a speech at the station said that the delegation had come to visit China with the warm wishes of the 34 million Japanese peasants for friendship and co-existence and economic prosperity between Japan and China.

"We hope to learn from the brilliant examples of the Chinese people, and especially those of the Chinese peasants, in their construction," Mr Horioka said, "we also hope to hold special talks on the relations between the peasants of the two countries and in the agricultural sector."



The Marchioness of Winchester (formerly Miss Bapay Parry) and her brother, Dashuradda Dr Jai Parry, arriving at Burlington House for the Private View of the Royal Academy's Summer Exhibition.—Central Press Photo.

Afghans Reported Mobilising

London, May 5. Afghanistan was reported to be mobilising her army as the Afghan Embassy here said today relations with Pakistan were worsening because of Pakistan's decision to merge Northwest Frontier tribal areas into a new West Pakistan Federation.

The Embassy said that the Afghan Prime Minister, Mr Sardar Mohammed Daoud, had recalled his diplomatic representative from Karachi, the Pakistan capital, and had declared that "responsibility for any consequences" of Pakistan's federation policy would rest on Pakistan.

From Kabul, the Afghan capital, a radio announcement said that the Ministry of Defence was calling up all men between the ages of 25 and 32 to be ready to "fight all acts of aggression."

This followed Monday's broadcast by Pakistan's Premier, Mr Mohammed Ali, that Pakistan "would no longer tolerate Afghan interference in its domestic affairs."

Mr Ali said that if Afghan interference should continue Pakistan "would know how to deal with it effectively."

"Afghanistan realises," he said, "that the merger (of the Northwest Frontier tribal areas) would sound the death knell of their Pakistanisation stunt."

(Afghanistan claims that the tribal areas between the river Indus and the Durand Line, which is the eastern frontier of Afghanistan, should be declared a separate and independent state of Pakhtunistan comprising some 7,000,000 "Pakhtun" tribesmen.)

The Afghanistan Embassy here said that Mr Daoud, the Afghan Premier, yesterday answered Mr Ali by declaring that the tribal areas "have never been part of Pakistan."

"The allegation of Afghanistan interference in Pakistan's internal affairs is, therefore, baseless," the Afghanistan Premier said.

APOLOGIES He said that the Afghanistan Government had offered apologies and compensation for last month's attacks on the Pakistan Embassy in Kabul but that Pakistan was not satisfied.

Pakistan officials here disputed this stand by Afghanistan and said that although Afghanistan had offered apologies and compensation they had also asked for Pakistan apologies and compensation for supposed attacks on Afghan diplomats.

The Pakistan Premier said it was "obvious that the ruling Junta of Afghanistan was in no mood to appreciate the necessity of maintaining friendly relations."

"In these circumstances, no alternative is left to the Pakistan Government save to act," Mr Ali said.

"As this first step, he said, Pakistan had closed two Consulates in Afghanistan and asked Afghanistan to close her consulates and trade agencies in Pakistan."

"It thus should fail to make the Afghan Government realise the seriousness of these incidents and the irreversibility of their attitude. Another action will be taken," Mr Ali said.

'WE HAD A GOOD DAY TODAY'

Viennese Version

Vienna, May 5. The British, French, Russian and American Envoys ended their fourth session of talks on re-drafting an Austrian State treaty here tonight without issuing a communiqué.

A source said afterwards: "We had a good day today. The conference is going well and it will be a short conference. But I doubt if we shall get it over by tomorrow. There are still some difficulties, yet we are still very optimistic."

This source said that they had today completed the discussion of all the articles of the treaty. They were now engaged in retracing old ground which had been left unagreed.

It had earlier been hoped that in view of the concessions made by the Russians in a sudden change of front yesterday the conference would complete its work and issue a final communiqué today.

"SATISFIED" Dr Bruno Kreisky, Austrian Deputy Foreign Minister, said as he left the Allied Control Council building where the talks are taking place that they were "satisfied" with today's progress. The conference will resume at 1430 tomorrow.

The conference, attended by the Austrian Foreign Minister Dr Leopold Figl, has been working since Monday to re-draft the State treaty ending the Austrian occupation.

It will then be considered and signed by the Foreign Ministers of the four powers and a representative of the Austrian Government.

Conference circles thought the question of a guarantee of Austrian neutrality might be left to the Ministers' meeting.

It is believed that the only articles still to be dealt with by the Ambassadors' conference are articles 33 dealing with the withdrawal of troops and 35 dealing with the disposal of former German assets in Austria.

The Russians had proposed that all Allied troops should be withdrawn by December 31 this year, whether the treaty had been ratified by then or not. It was understood unofficially that the Western Powers had not agreed to this suggestion.

It was not known exactly what clauses had caused disagreement on the disposal of former German assets.

The only questions expected to cause difficulty in the economic clauses of the treaty were those connected with claims of Western nationals to such assets, and about whether the Soviet Government's concessions to Austria should be included in the treaty or form a separate bilateral agreement.

BOUNDARY The spokesman said that the "Durand Line" was agreed upon as the boundary between Afghanistan and British India in 1893.

"It is Her Majesty's Government's view that the Durand Line is the boundary between Pakistan and Afghanistan today and that Pakistan inherited the areas which were under British administration before the partition of India in 1947," the spokesman said.—United Press.

LIBERATION OF THE DUTCH Amsterdam, May 5. Queen Juliana today took the salute at an impressive march past of troops from seven Allied countries commemorating the tenth anniversary of Dutch liberation.

With her on the dais were Prince Bernhard and General Charles Foulkes, the Canadian who took the surrender of German forces in Holland at Wageningen on May 5, 1954. He is now Chairman of the Canadian Chiefs of Staff.

Bright sunshine lit the colourful scene as nearly 2,000 men from Britain, the United States, Canada, France, Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands marched down the road—renamed "General Foulkesway."

Today is a national holiday and Wageningen is the focal point of celebrations in towns and villages up and down the land.—Reuter.

SHAPE STUDYING

NUCLEAR WEAPON WOUNDS

Paris, May 5.

The treatment of wounds inflicted by nuclear weapons will be studied by the fourth annual 18-nation Health Service Conference to be held at Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE) today and tomorrow. SHAPE announced.

The conference will include representatives of North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) countries and will be opened by United States Air Force Brigadier-General Wilford S. Hall, who heads SHAPE's medical department.

Tomorrow "Operation Avenues" will be carried out as the SHAPE to demonstrate a simulated attack with nuclear weapons and its effect on victims.

The operation will be directed by British Army Corps General Sir Frederick Harris, who heads the British Army's Health Service.—France-Press.

Communism Before Colonialism

Singapore, May 5. The Secretary of the People's Action Party, Mr Lee Kuan-yew, today denied that he had told an Australian newsmen yesterday that if Malaya were independent it would become a Red Chinese province.

Mr Lee, who is sparking the People's Action Party's fight to smash colonialism and who is clamouring for immediate independence for Malaya, was quoted by a special correspondent of the Sydney Daily Mirror as saying: "If Malaya were independent it will become a Chinese State."

The correspondent then quoted Mr Lee as expressing the hope that the Chinese (in Malaya) would see themselves as Malaysians and not clinging to Red China.

VERY GOOD THING Denying he had said this, Mr Lee today declared he told the correspondent, "It will be a very good thing if we can have a treaty with Communist China like the one recently signed by Mr Chou En-lai and the Indonesian Government so that those Chinese who still have ties with their ancestral homes will have to decide whether they want to be Malaysians or Chinese."

In a big effort to clear this point Mr Lee pointed out that "one-tenth of the population in Malaya are Indians. Half the rest are Malays" and of the Chinese in the remainder a high proportion are already Malaysians like myself.

The fiery Chinese independence fighter emphasised that he was not a Communist but if I have to choose between colonialism and communism I will vote for communism."

Likening himself to the Indian Prime Minister, Mr Nehru, Mr Lee said that the British are determined to stay on for as long as they can, not realising that as long as they are here in political control they are the common enemy of the Communists and Malaysian nationalists alike and the situation may very likely become as in India, China.

In his interview with the Sydney Daily Mirror yesterday, Mr Lee was quoted as saying: "In Malaya we are sitting on a powder keg. The Communists are certain to win and nothing any one can do can stop them—neither British nor Australian troops."

In the same interview Mr Lee also said he opposed the sending of Australian troops to Malaya "because there is danger they would be used to maintain the existing political order."—United Press.



ANNOUNCEMENT

The Name of

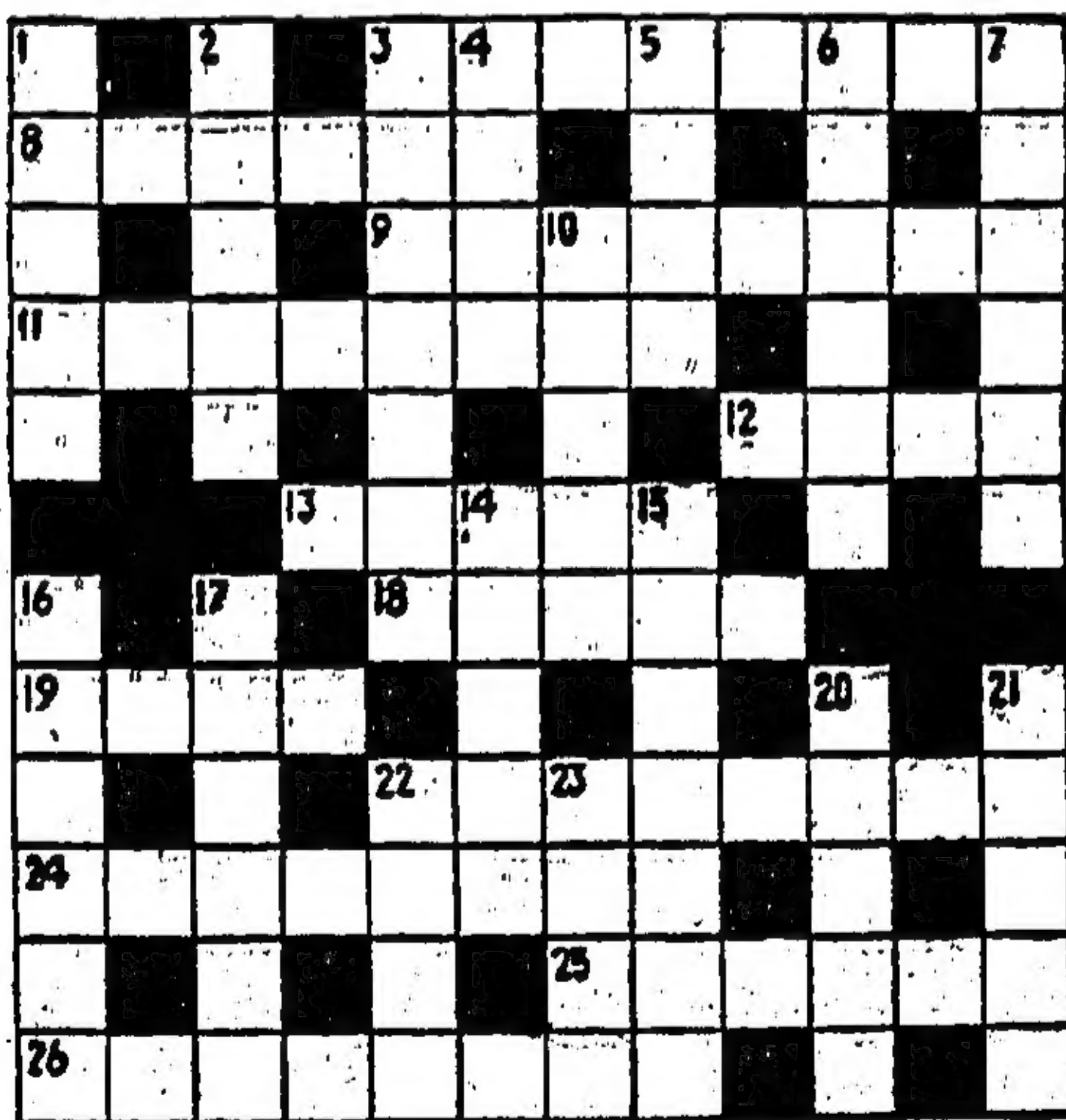
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A British Crossword Puzzle



- ACROSS**
- Throttle (8)
 - Worker (8)
 - Devotion (8)
 - Told (8)
 - Easy (4)
 - Brother of Romulus (5)
 - Moves quickly (5)
 - Black (4)
 - Celebrated philosopher (8)
 - Servant (8)
 - Modest (8)
 - Ensed (8)
- DOWN**
- Denude (5)
 - Quarrels (5)
 - Closely packed (7)
 - Neat (4)
 - Parched (4)
 - Surely (8)
 - Happenings (6)
 - Hesitate (5)
 - Stone worker (5)
 - Agitated (7)
 - Extreme fright (8)
 - Gateway (6)
 - Obese (3)
 - Pale (5)
 - Answer (5)
 - Grant (4)

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD: Across: 3 Transmit, 7 Enter, 8 Ascended, 10 Solace, 13 Treadle, 15 Bare, 17 Expires, 18 Defence, 20 Errs, 21 Trellis, 26 Treaty, 27 Increase, 28 Crisp, 29 Discreet. Down: 1 Least, 2 Stole, 3 Tract, 4 Need, 5 Medlar, 6 Titles, 8 Select, 11 Order, 12 Asses, 14 Experts, 15 Rifle, 16 Remot, 18 Deduced, 19 Fracas, 22 Erect, 23 Laid, 24 Sybil, 25 Peas.

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? DID IT
HAPPEN ?

TEA WITH MAHMOUD

"MADEMOISELLE, you are too sporty," sighed the Arab lift-boy disapprovingly as he took me down to the ground floor at four in the morning.

He had dealt with many eccentrics in that hotel but never before with an Englishwoman who continually arose at 3 a.m. and left hours before dawn with a rucksack and climbing shoes hung around her neck.

In the square outside, a naval car was waiting and an impatient hiss from that large red-faced character known around Beirut as "Monsieur l'Amiral" issued forth.

"Why the devil have you been so long? We must get there before dawn. Hurry."

Terrier faces

I climbed hastily into the back seat, where Torps was trying not to look sleepy. It was in the English sporting tradition to look keen at the beginning of long tramps and even in the dark we put on the alert, terrier faces which our leader approved.

R. K. was not really an admiral but a captain commanding the submarine flotilla then based in Beirut. He had such fierce eyebrows, however, that the Lebanese automatically gave him the grander title.

Bill, who sat beside him reading a map by torch-light, had for two years been one of his submarine commanders and was in the process of being "brought back to full strength" by mountain marches lasting from 12 to 15 hours. He had the correct quivering greyhound look even when his mind was full of cream-buns and nightclubs and was therefore a great favourite with his commanding officer.

Heavy perfume

Torps, as his name implied, was flotilla torpedo officer. A naval boxing champion, he had proved not only tough but divinely cheerful on the unutterable midnight skiing expeditions which R. K. had been organising for his officers in the snows of early spring.

Holding, at that time, a job under British Press Liaison, who had instructed me to "make a newspaper work" — I found that when I went away the sheet issued to our troops got no worse (perhaps that was impossible) and so I snatched at every chance to explore the loveliest little mountain range in the world.

R. K. allowed me to tag along and often arranged easy alternative climbs.

We were driving at break-neck speed along the old Phoenician coast road. Some way past Nahr el Kelb, where beautiful Assyrian tablets were hewn in the rock, the car turned away from the sea and started to climb out of the heat, out of the heavy perfume of orange orchards into cool, exquisite heights.

Ahead lay a paradise unknown to Lebanese townfolk. During a skiing trip we had marked a certain remote valley near the top of the range as an ideal camping site. We had all longed to return and see its face unveiled by snow.

When dawn broke we had reached a village perched above a precipice. The road turned into goat track and we decided to leave the car.

Safe-keeping

Before many amazed and delighted eyes we carried out our bundles. I tried to have a few words with the village folk, who were handsome, red-checked and extremely vivacious, but my Arabic only caused laughter. It did not matter. Gestures made it clear that they would look after the car while we disappeared up the valley towards the distant snow line.

In Beirut one had the very matches stolen out of our pocket.

by Anita Leslie



Anita Leslie gave up acting to become a trainer of horses. Then came her war-time travels, including service in the Middle East, South Africa, Italy, Germany. With her husband, Commander William King, war-time submarine ace, she now lives in a twentieth-century fortress in Galway Bay. Her latest book, *The Fabulous Leonard*, is a biography of her great-grandfather, who was also Sir Winston Churchill's grandfather.

Here, two hours away from civilisation, you could entrust towards it, we found a sauceman, any stranger with your watch or your wallet for safe keeping.

R. K., carrying my lead as well as his own with a kettle and sauceman tied on top, took up his favourite staff and started off. The village elders wished him well.

"Gone two nights," R. K. roared in English, holding up two fingers, and they nodded vigorously. A few youngsters trailed on with us, giggling about the "sit" (the lady). Then after a few miles they caught their goats, offered us each a mug of warm milk and waved goodbye.

We trudged up a mountain side of countless wild flowers while the sun rose and pink oleanders grew scarcer.

After plunging into a pool we ate under the shade of a huge oak, and decided to laze.

By dusk R. K. had led us up to a glorious ridge, organised the collection of firewood and was

These tales by famous people COULD have happened. Whether they DID is for you to decide!

cooking a superb supper. My task was merely to heat the plates. It was cold up there near the snow line but strangely beautiful and silent.

Next morning we left our camp with blankets hung on bushes in the approved style and did not get back until nearly dark. On our return we saw to our amazement that food and cooking gear had been scattered and all the bedding was missing.

"Incredible," we gasped. "These mountain folk never steal. We know them. It just couldn't happen."

"It looks as if there had been a fight," puzzled Bill.

We stared up the wide darkening valley. There was not a soul in sight. Not a human habitation for miles. Then, far off, we noticed a blanket

R.K. strode on to meet the approaching figure.

As the man ran toward us we saw that he was alone and carrying some of our gear. What could have happened?

R.K., whose anger had died, asked me to question the panting, beaming apparition. The story he excitedly poured forth, while pointing up the mountain, was difficult to comprehend. "He says that 'bad men' came and took our stuff. We must follow."

R.K. was only too ready, but I did not want to attack a tribe of bandits with a stick, nor did I fancy being left alone in the dark.

The stranger's face reassured us. You just could not lead people into a trap with a smile like that! We climbed close on his heels to a cave where he revealed a cache of our belongings. "Lead on to the thieves!" roared R.K., but we all murmured.

Too tired

Meanwhile the Arab, while helping to carry blankets and pillows back to camp, continued incessantly to talk. I was too tired and hungry to follow the torrent of explanation, though the words "bad men" which I did understand constantly recurred.

We lit a fire and started supper. Most of the food had been salvaged. Only one blanket, Bill's submarine sweater and my toothbrush seemed irretrievably lost.

The Arab sat on a stone beside us and naturally shared our food.

"I've a shrewd suspicion he invented the whole story," said R.K. "But at least he's a merry rogue."

"Perhaps he dragged the stuff away to get a reward for helping us find it."

We remained puzzled. Nothing that had occurred quite made sense.

Meanwhile the stranger sat there at his ease, laughing, joking and congratulating us on the good tea. Like all the mountain folk he looked poorly dressed, but his saucy red turban was extremely becoming. The wood fire lit up a finely chiseled face with sparkling black eyes. Of course he could not guess how little we understood of his spate of Arabic, but the sight of R.K. washing up in a nearby stream while I rested aroused fits of laughter.

Goodbye

"Do men really cook and wash dishes in England?" he asked. "Here it is the women."

I did not consider all his remarks suitable for translation. When the moon rose, Mahmoud (as we now knew him) stood up, and said goodbye volubly and poetically in the Arab fashion. Then he walked off towards the village.

"I suppose we ought to give him something, even if he did invent the brigands," said R.K., and called him back.



DRAWING BY
KOLLMAN

Suddenly a man emerged from behind an avalanche of boulders and hurried towards us, waving his arms ...

With a wide smile that showed flawless teeth Mahmoud returned. But a frown passed over his hawk face at the sight of a proffered note and he firmly refused it.

Scenting the danger of hurt feelings we immediately changed tactics and asked if he would accept some of the praiseworthy tea. Immensely dignified, he stood there in his tattered cloak, put his hand to his heart and graciously accepted.

Puzzled

We watched him depart, still puzzled but feeling that we had been firmly put in our place.

Next morning we had to rise with the dawn, wash our faces with a handful of snow, brew up and hurry down the valley for the unbelievable as it seemed, the war still continued and jobs awaited us in Beirut.

The village woke early and a crowd waited around our car. Mahmoud headed a small delegation which invited us first to sip the prepared tea, and then to return often and "bring our families." Every face was alight with smiles, and amid the tumult we realised that a great tale of "bad men" was going the rounds.

A welcome

It must have been two months later that R.K., Torps and I drove up that mountain road again. Our band was disappearing. Already Bill had returned to England to take over a new submarine and R.K. was about to go off in command of an aircraft carrier. We longed to visit our valley again, but time forbade. We could but reach the village and spend half an hour in the thin cool sunlight. Arabs trooped out of their orchards and gardens to stage a welcome and to hope that perhaps our families had been added to recently, for disappointment showed on every Arab face when the inevitable questions were put and we answered truthfully that between the four of us only R.K. had a child.... and that a daughter! "Such beautiful men,"

the women would remark, "and only one child! It is a shame." Today they led us to a table spread with cherries, olives, goats' cheese and arak. Mahmoud appeared and recounted the tale all over again to exclamations of horror and approval. But today a Lebanese gendarme was in the crowd. As he spoke fluent French the true story was revealed to us for the first time.

Mahmoud had walked up with a couple of boys to see how the "Englishmen and their lady" were doing on the mountain top. When he reached our camp it was to see "an enemy village" from the other side of the mountain dragging off our belongings "to humiliate the honour of this village which had you under their protection," said the gendarme. "I reported it all to the police post over there."

Quite alone

Single-handed — for the lady could hardly wield sticks — Mahmoud had fought the raiders with his staff and finally driven them, dropping blankets and saucers, straight up to the watershed and down the other side of the mountain. Then he collected all he could find, sent the exhausted boys home and waited for our return.

Quite alone he must have fought a band of men for several hours and guarded our belongings for half a day. His reward had been a cup of tea and the appellation of rogue. Happily Mahmoud will never know the cause of our blushes.

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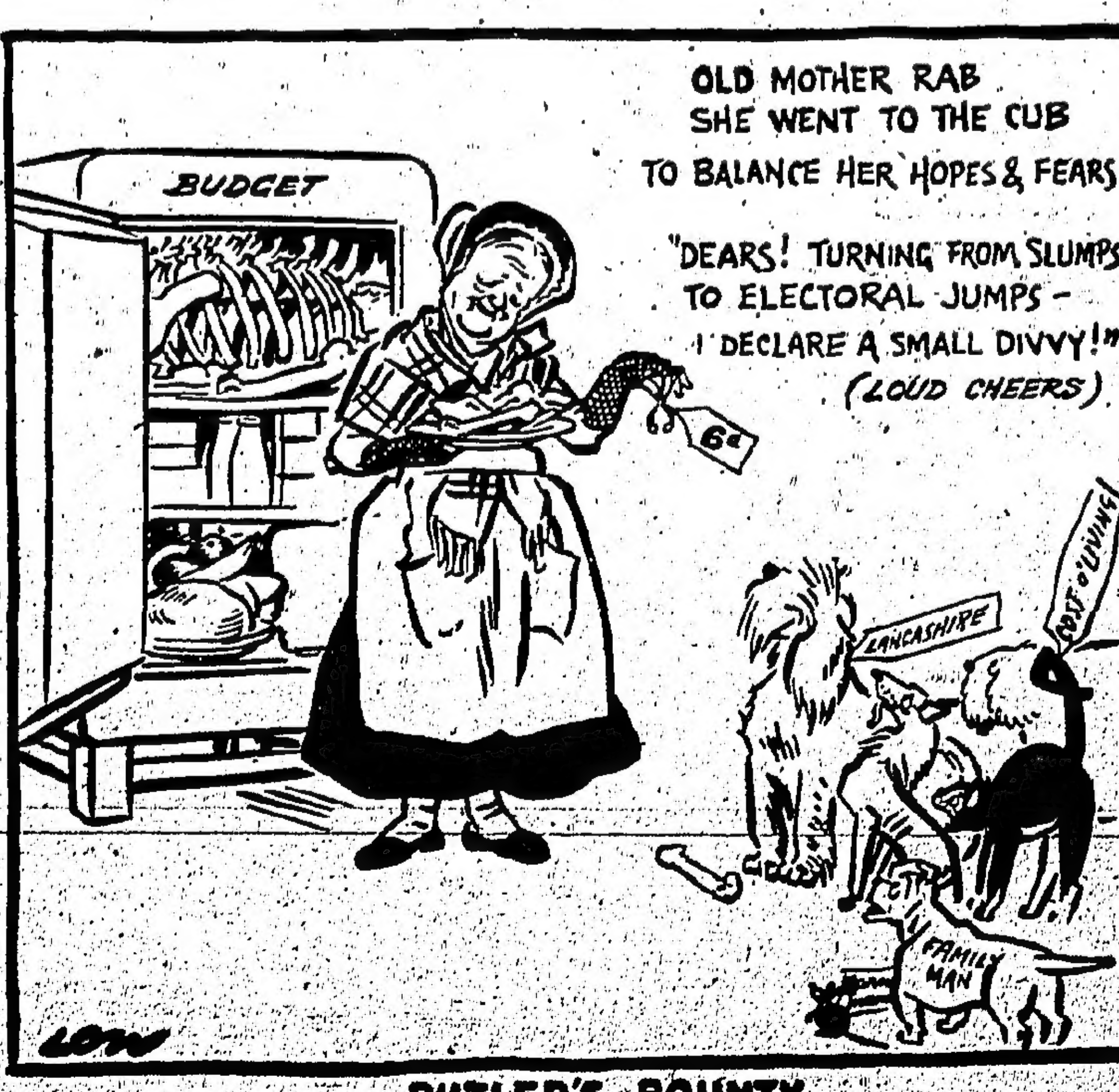
DID IT REALLY HAPPEN?

YES NO

Put your tick in the space above and keep this panel by you until Monday ... when the answer will be given with another story in this series by

HESKETH PEARSON

Did yesterday's story — The Phantom Gardener, by Nigel Balchin — actually happen? The answer: NO.



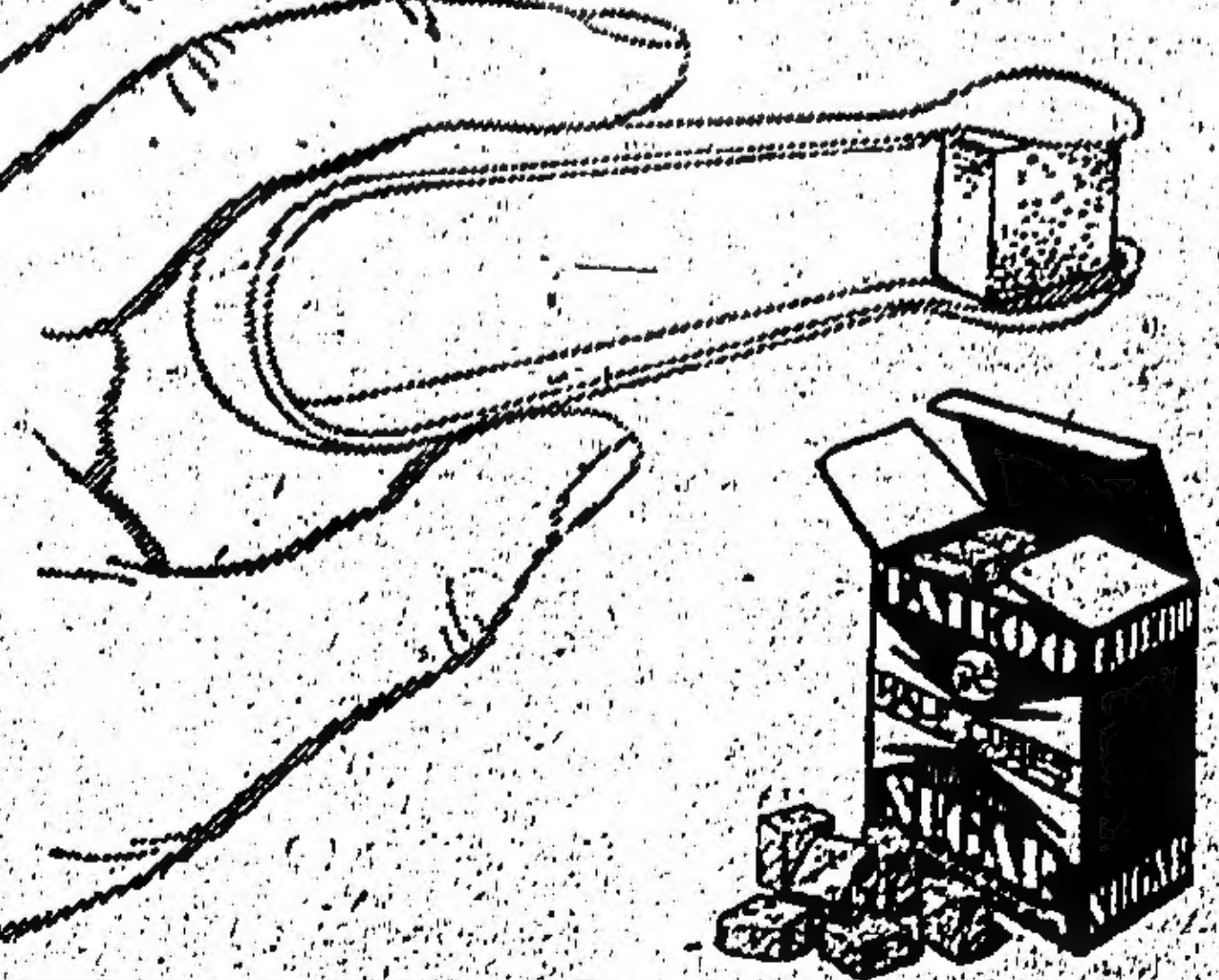
OLD MOTHER RAB
SHE WENT TO THE CUB
TO BALANCE HER HOPES & FEARS

"DEARS! TURNING FROM SLUMPS
TO ELECTORAL JUMPS —
I DECLARE A SMALL DIVVY!"
(LOUD CHEERS)

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Hong Kong Birds

Herberts, G. A. C. 1953.
Hong Kong Birds. Pp.
viii+230. 11 x 8 1/2 in.
colour, numerous black-
and-white drawings in
text. Hong Kong: South
China Morning Post,
Ltd. HK\$35.00.

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handbook for ornitholo-
gists resident or station-
ed in Hong Kong. All
the hitherto recorded
species are included;
plumages are clearly and
concisely described, and
a short account is given
of field characters,
voice, habits, status,
etc. The illustrations,
except for three plates
of photographs, are all
by Cdr. A. M. Hughes,
and include four attrac-
tive plates of the heads
of 42 species and many
useful drawings in the
text. The writer of this
review would have
benefited greatly from
this book when station-
ed in Hong Kong some
years ago. Even now,
on referring to it, some
40 unfamiliar species
on which notes were
made at the time have
almost all proved easily
identifiable. — D. W. S.

(Extract from "The Ibis" official
organ of the British Ornithologists'
Union, British Museum).

S. C. M. POST
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"PEIHO" sailing May 14th
"BIR. HAKEM" sailing June 25th

ATOM-POWERED ANSWER TO RUSSIA Under Polar Ice

Anchorage, May 5.
Atom-powered submarines travelling to the
attack under the frozen surface of the Arctic seas
may be the West's answer to any future Soviet
aggression, according to the world famous
Australian aviator and polar explorer, Sir George
Hubert Wilkins.

Sir Hubert is at present in the far north
testing Arctic clothing for the military authorities.
Before coming to Alaska, he attended the
launching of the first atom-powered submarine,
The Nautilus, at New London, Connecticut.
He says that he is convinced that such undersea craft
could play a decisive role in any northern war operations
of the future.

Sir Hubert's exploits include
numerous Arctic and Antarctic
expeditions using ships and air-
craft, and one aboard a sub-
marine. His first trip to the
polar regions was as a member
of the Stefansson Arctic expedi-
tion of 1913.

FIRST EXPLORATION

Nearly 20 years later, in
1931, he commanded the
first undersea exploration
of the Arctic, in the area
north of West Spitzbergen.
An earlier nameplate of the
Nautilus was used for this
expedition.

"After many years of war,
people are finally starting to
believe me when I say the
Arctic is important in world
affairs," Sir Hubert said here.



SIR HUBERT WILKINS

He emphasised that as early as
1919, he and General Billy
Mitchell were lone proponents
of the idea that the Arctic
would some day be a bastion
of defence against Russia.

Today, the concentration of
military forces and defence out-
posts in the Arctic by both the
East and the West bears out
their visionary belief.

In this atom age, America
must face the intense cold of
the Arctic if she is to be pre-
pared for defence and, if need
be, offence, according to
the Australian explorer. "This
means the US must maintain an
army in the Arctic at all times,"
Sir Hubert said.

Sir Hubert said that he be-
came convinced that submarines
could play a decisive role in
Arctic defence or offence even
before his undersea exploration
of the polar seas. In 1927, as
head of the DeLong Arctic Ex-
pedition, he made numerous
flights over the Arctic pack ice
from the northern coast of
Alaska.

On March 29 of that year, he
and Ben Eielson, pioneer
Alaskan bush pilot, took off
from remote Point Barrow on
their first long trip over the
Arctic Ocean. It was 30 de-
grees Fahrenheit below zero
(about minus 34.5 Centigrade)
as they made a five and one-
half hour flight to the north-
west. When they were more
than 500 miles from Alaska's
northern shores, their engine
began to miss.

Eielson brought the crippled
plane down safely on the ice
and proved something which
Sir Hubert had long contended:
that wheeled aircraft could land
safely on the polar sea.

While the bush pilot was re-
pairing their craft, Sir Hubert
chopped holes in the ice and
detonated charges to take echo
soundings. He found that the
Arctic ocean at that point was
more than three miles deep.

Until then, popular opinion was
that the water in the Polar seas
was only 1,500 feet or less deep.

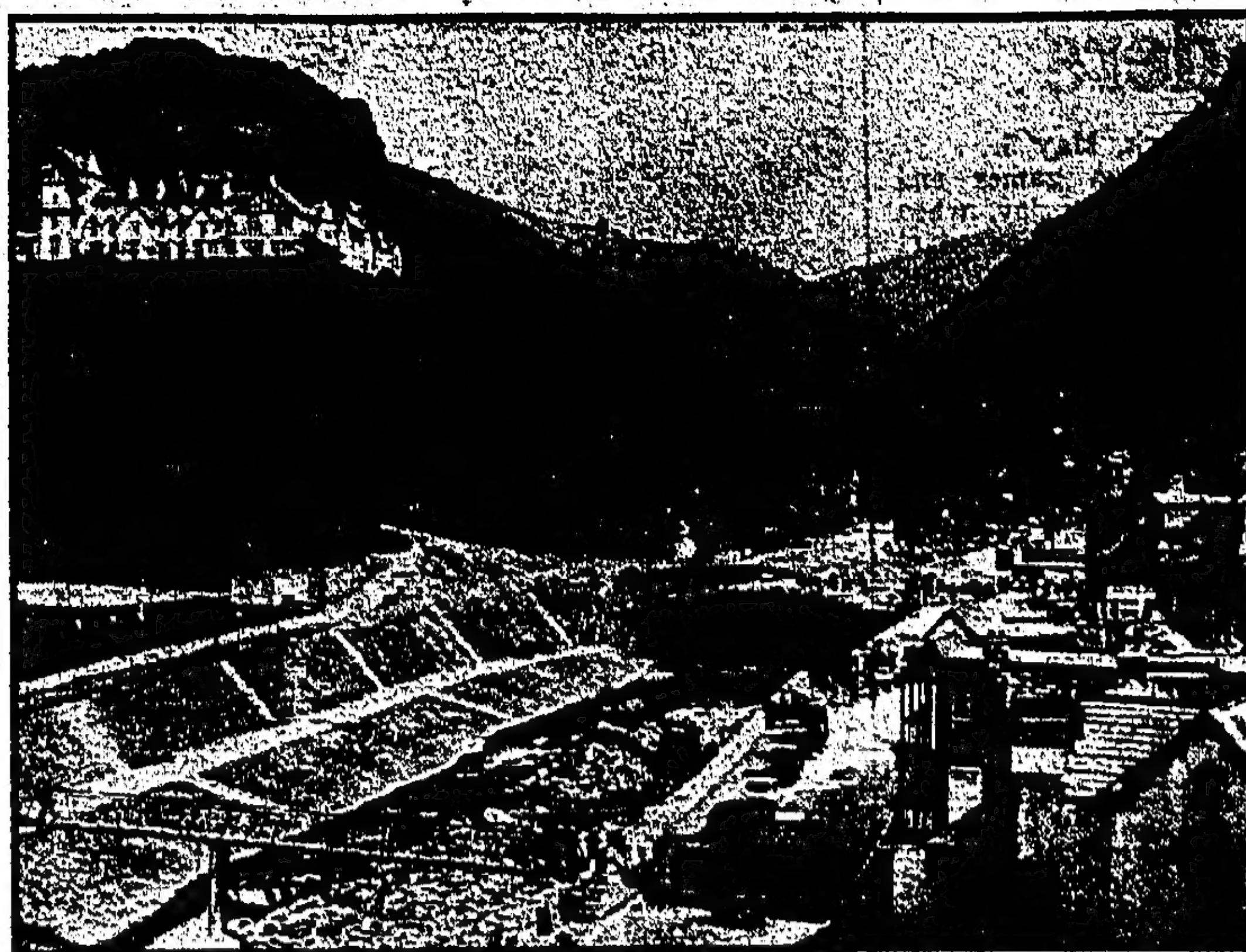
FELL IN

Sir Hubert said that the
great depth of the Polar
seas, combined with the
unusually clear quality of
the water, convinced him
that wartime submarine
operations there were
possible. He proved the
clarity of the polar sea
waters, at first-hand—while
on the pack ice he fell into
the sea through a thin spot.

The explorer believes that
atom-powered submarines would
be an important weapon in any
future Arctic war because of
their ability to stay submerged
indefinitely. Aircraft from
Alaskan and other bases, he
declares, would have to smash
through a heavy Russian net-
work of aerial defences in the
event of the United States being
forced into war and wishing to
carry out offensive strikes.

But, he added, "Submarines
could move without much de-
tection. Then they could sur-
face, launch their missiles and
disappear as unobtrusively as
they came." — China Mail
Special.

FRENCH CIVIL DEFENCE APATHY LYNMOUTH RISES AGAIN



Nearly three years ago flood
waters raged through this tiny
Devon village of Lymouth,
sweeping 22 people to their
death. Now, as the 1955 holi-
day season dawns, Lymouth
shows this almost normal
scene. — Reuterphoto.

Mail Notices

The latest times of posting
shown below are those for re-
gistered correspondence posted
at G.P.O. Hong Kong. The latest
posting times elsewhere which
in general, are earlier than the
G.P.O. times can be ascertained
by enquiry at the local office.
The latest posting times for
registered articles are generally
one hour earlier than the times
shown below. Particular regard
the parcel mails can be ascer-
tained by enquiry at any post office.

FRIDAY, MAY 6

By Air
Kormos, 6 p.m.
Kormos, 6 p.m.
East Africa, Great Britain, Middle
East, India, 6 p.m.
S. Africa, Canada, 6 p.m.
Japan, 6 p.m.
By Surface
Italy, France, 2 p.m.
Macao, 2 p.m.

NO DEAL WITH INDONESIA

Djakarta, May 5.
The Indonesian Economic
Affairs Ministry denied today
that the Government intends to
permit resumption of barter
competition transactions be-
tween Indonesia and Hong Kong
and Singapore.

The Ministry said it had no
plans to allow barter trade
neither now nor in the fore-
seeable future.
The Ministry said that the
misleading reports might have
started as a result of offers from
abroad to resume barter trade.
United Press.

Radio Hongkong

H.K.T.
8. Time Signal and Pro-
gramme Summary; 9.00. Children's
Half Hour. "The Wind in the
Willows" by Kenneth Grahame.
Announced by Misses Part 4—
"The Road" (BBC); 1.00. Van Dyke
Songs Parade; 7.30. To Your Part-
ners; 7.30. "Viewpoints" A Weekly
Magazine devoted to the Arts.
Edited and Introduced by Janet
Tomblin. Books Reviewed by Julian
Newman; "Last Recollections of
Mr. Charles" by Nigel Balchin.
"The Seasons of the Year" by
John Masefield. Dances by Ben
Scott and Doreen Keeler; talk about
Vietnamese Music; 7.30. Weather
Report; 8. Time Signal and
News (London Relay); 8.30. Com-
mentary (London Relay) on Special
Announcement; 8.30. Artists of
the Week—Sara Nelsova (sello);
8.30. London Studio Melodies; Frank
Chapple and his Orch. (BBC);
9.00. Time Signal; 9.00. Love Hour—
Classical Requests presented by
Alison Parker (Saxophone); 10.00. Boe-
tati Club; 10.15. Letter from
America by Alan Cooke (Re-
corded London Relay); 10.30. Record
Round-up; 10.30. The Record; 11.00.
Time Signal; Radio News Reel
(London Relay); 11.15. Goodnight
Music; God Save the Queen; 11.30.
Close Down.

Authorities Have Plans For 'Ostrich Heads'

Paris, May 5.
French civil defence authorities are working
hard to prevent the civil population from being
caught unprepared in the event of war.
But they are hampered by public apathy and
by lack of Government funds. Their plans so far
are still at the "general staff" level.

According to M. Maxime
Roux, head of France's National
Civil Defence Service, too many
people in France think that
there is nothing to be done
against modern air attacks.
Frenchmen are "a bit apathetic,"
he said, and tend to have an
"ostrich approach" to civil
defence.

The problem, he continued, is
to make people feel an "abs-
olute duty" to help in civil
defence. Even with modern
nuclear super-bombs there are
always people on the fringe of
the bombed area to be saved.
In addition, the soldier at the
front must know that maximum
precautions are being taken to
protect his family.

The key centre for France's
civil defence preparation and
propaganda is the National Civil
Defence School, which comprises
(a) a fire protection school in
Paris for firemen, and (b) a
general civil defence instruction
school at Nainville-les-Roches,
about 26 miles from Paris.

This school is in a modern
chateau in a 90-acre park. Once
a holiday home for a foundry-
men's union, it was bought by
civil defence authorities for
about £24,000.

CONVERTING IT

Another 34,000,000 francs was
spent on converting it, so that
it now provides 33 civil defence
students with comfortable bed-
rooms, lecture rooms, cinema,
workshops and a luxurious tele-
vision-equipped bar.

Instruction is given by four
teachers who have taken

SHOWN FILMS

Students are also shown films
of atom bomb explosions and
their effects and a film on the
bombing of Berlin in the last
war.

M. Marcel Diebolt, 42-year-
old head of the Nainville school,
said that practical exercises had
not started there yet. Courses
were still at the "general staff"
level.

But for future practical ex-
ercises, an exercise ground in-
cluding a "bombed" building,
tunnels and various models of
air raid shelters is being set up.
"Grassroots" civil defence
training for local groups will
be given in three regional
centres. One at Lyons and one
at Toulouse are expected to be
ready early next year. A third
will be set up somewhere in the
Paris region.

The Nainville school deals
not only with wartime problems
of civil defence, but also those
of peacetime disasters, such as
earthquakes, floods and forest
fires. Lectures are given on the
peacetime as well as wartime
application of the national
emergency aid plan, known as
ORSEC, which is applied at
departmental, regional and
national levels according to the
extent of disaster.

The plan went into operation
on a national scale during
disastrous floods last January.
M. Roux directed it.

M. Diebolt said that many
students from Nainville become
useful propagandists and were
organising civil defence lec-
tures in their home districts, borrow-
ing lectures and films from
the school.

M. Roux, questioned at a Press
conference about civil defence
plans against possible atom
bomb attacks, said that general
evacuation plans are now being
studied and plans for a nation-
wide alert system are "quite
advanced."

LONG TERM

Long term planning includes
the construction of shelters
which can be used as garages
or warehouses in peacetime.

Aid teams should be pre-
pared and trained. M. Roux em-
phasised the use of mobile
columns for fire-fighting, rescue
work and bringing in food sup-
plies. On the basis of Japan's
experiences with first atom
bombs, it was calculated that
one rescue worker would be
needed for every three victims.

M. Roux said that credits for
French civil defence were very
small. Their "absolute mini-
mum" requirements was \$7,000
million francs (about \$97,000,
000) a year. In the current
financial year, they had been
granted \$1,500 million francs
(about \$21,500,000).

French civil defence authori-
ties cooperate closely with the
North Atlantic Treaty Organiza-
tion's civil defence experts. This
Organization's chief adviser for
civil defence, Sir John Hodsoll,
helped in getting the Nainville
school going.

Civil defence experts from
Germany also take part in
discussions. Sir John Hodsoll
said that a valuable exchange
of information was going on
with the Germans on this
subject. — China Mail Special.

MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN

By Les Falk and Phil Davis



FERD'NAND

By Milk



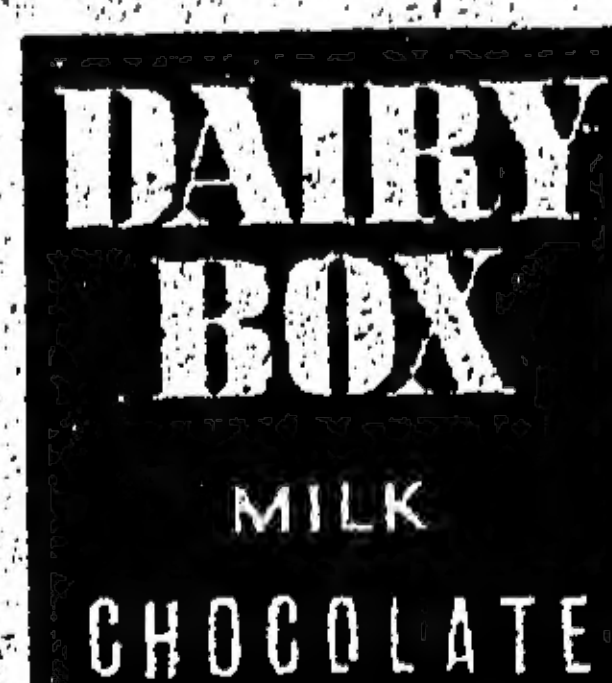
NANCY

By Ernie Bushmiller



JOHNNY HAZARD

By Frank Robbins



TRADE and COMMERCE SECTION

U.S. Rubber Consumption
A Record

Washington, May 5. The Natural Rubber News said today that United States rubber consumption in March and for the first quarter of the year had established a record.

This publication of the Natural Rubber Bureau here said March consumption figures amounted to 134,878 tons and the first quarter consumption amounted to 377,918 tons.

It pointed out that if consumption continued at the first quarter rate for all 1955 then rubber consumption would amount to nearly 1,500,000 tons.

Consumption of natural rubber in March was 57,933 tons, maintaining about the 43 per cent ratio to total rubber consumption which was set in February.

The Rubber News said that constantly increasing consumption reflected the higher automobile production in Detroit and also the very high rate of replacement tyre business, as well as the produced very high replacements in the second quarter due to the build up of tubeless inventories.

It then said although the estimates of United States consumption in 1955 have been raised by industry sources about 150,000 tons since the first of the year, the entire increase is forecast to be synthetic—United Press.

British Petrol Dividend

London, May 5. British Petroleum Company announced today that its increase of 17 per cent from the £3,893,228 earned the previous year. But depreciation takes £20,406,091 in 1954 (previously £20,058,243) and taxation £19,592,977 compared with £19,342,232.

Net profit is £24,349,873 compared with £23,589,434, a gain of three per cent.

A final dividend of 14 per cent less tax is announced. This is on a capital increased by the free script issue four shares for one. An interim on the smaller capital of 5 per cent has already been paid—United Press.

LONDON METAL PRICES

London, May 5. The tin market was steady with spot losing 3/4 to £710 1/4 and three-month 1/4 to £714 1/4. Turnover was 50 tons of which 25 tons were for cash.

Closing prices in sterling per long ton were:

Spot buyers	710 1/4
3-month buyers	714 1/4
3-month sellers	714 1/4
The zinc copper	114 1/2
nickel	114 1/2
Prices closed in sterling per long ton follows:	
Spot Copper	305 1/2
3-month Copper	306 1/2
Lead	23 1/2
1st half May	103-103 1/2
1st half Aug	103-103 1/2
1st half Oct	87 1/2-87 3/4
1st half Dec	87 1/2-87 3/4

NEW YORK METAL FUTURES

Prices of metal futures closed today in cents per lb. as follows:	
Lead	May 14.00
June 14.20	
July 14.20	
August 14.20	
September 14.20	
October 14.20	
November 14.20	
December 14.20	
Zinc	May 10.20
June 10.20	
July 10.20	
August 10.20	
September 10.20	
October 10.20	
November 10.20	
December 10.20	
Copper	May 35.00
June 35.00	
July 35.00	
August 35.00	
September 35.00	
October 35.00	
November 35.00	
December 35.00	

CHICAGO LARD FUTURES

Chicago, May 5. Prices of lard futures closed today in cents per lb. as follows:	
May	12.72
July	12.72
September	12.72
October	12.72
November	12.72
December	12.72

LONDON PEPPER MARKET

London, May 5. The pepper market was quiet. White Sarawak was quoted at 3 1/2d, sellers; per lb. and Black Sarawak at 2 1/2d, sellers. Black Malabar May was quoted at 3 1/2d per cwt., sellers—United Press.

LARGER SOYBEAN DEMAND EXPECTED

Japanese Will Also Want More Tallow

Washington, May 1.

The United States Agriculture Department today reported a possible larger demand by Japan for soybeans and tallow in the coming months, and a need by Austria of fats and oils.

The forecasts were contained in the Department's weekly publication "Foreign Crops and Markets" and were based on reports from United States Agricultural Attaches stationed in those two countries. They were intended as sales advice for American farmers and exporters.

The report of Mr. Joseph Dodson, the Assistant Agricultural Attaché at the United States Embassy in Tokyo, said: "Japan's imports of soybeans and tallow during the Japanese fiscal year 1955 (April 1, 1955-March 31, 1956) may be somewhat larger than in the previous 12 months."

"Present indications are that imports of soybeans during the 1955 fiscal year may total about 640,000 short tons (including 60,000 tons of soybeans for processing and re-export) and tallow about 120,000 tons as compared with 617,000 tons of soybeans and 93,000 tons of tallow in the fiscal year 1954."

"On March 30, 1955, the Japanese Government formally approved the foreign exchange budget for imports during April-September 1955. For this six-month period the Government has decided to increase the imports of soybeans to about 320,000 tons (including 22,000 tons of soybean meal) from around 226,000 tons in the corresponding six months of 1954."

"At the same time tallow imports for April-September 1955 were increased about 22,000 tons from 44,000 to 66,000 tons. "As a basis for working out the import programme for April-September 1955 the Government has tentatively set the import programme for the second half of the fiscal year."

World Cotton Markets

New York, May 5. Cotton futures today turned irregular after starting higher for the fourth consecutive sessions.

Gains ranged up to 50 cents a bale before technical realising and edge selling curbed the rise. Liverpool brokers bought July against straddle position. Shipments covering against export sales to Korea, Italy, Great Britain and Spain furnish additional support. However, recent optimism on the immediate export outlook for raw cotton was cooled by the slower demand.

The net stock of 1954 crop cotton in Government hands totalled 1,949,561 bales plus 4,898,815 bales from the 1953 loan programme.

Trading volumes and open interests in the Exchange today were:

NEW YORK

New York, May 5.

Prices of futures closed today as follows:

Dec.	34.55
May	35.96
Oct.	34.02
Dec.	34.07
May	34.65
Oct.	34.65
Dec.	35.41-42

Market

London, May 5.

Dealings on the London

Stock Exchange today were

highly selective with most

of the list moving in a narrow

irregular pattern in quiet

trading.

Among the features most re-

flected response to company an-

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ENGINEERING EQUIPMENT CO. LTD.
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CHINA MAIL

Page 10

FRIDAY, MAY 6, 1955.

STARTS INSTANTLY
NEVER MISSES
SHEAFFER'S
CLICKER
MEDIUM & FINE
BALLPOINTS AVAILABLE

"Dangerous Agitators" Sentenced

Remarking that he had formed the opinion that the three defendants were "dangerous agitators" and were "a constant incitement to disorder," Mr. J. T. Morris at Kowloon this morning sentenced three former coolies of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company's coolies living quarters.

In his judgment, the Magistrate said: "I may say at this stage that peaceful picketing is, of course, permitted under the Ordinance, and in cases of dispute, those employees who have grievances—either real or imaginary—have the right to attend the premises of their employers for the purpose of peacefully obtaining information, or even peacefully persuading any person to work or to abstain from working."

Mr. Morris held that the three accused had been properly dismissed by their employers, and that after dismissal they deliberately remained on the Company's premises for the purpose of creating trouble.

They were overtaken when they were continuing in attempts to disrupt the work carried on by other employees. Mr. J. R. Oliver of Messrs Deacons appeared for the Prosecution.



One of the most popular attractions at the traffic exhibition which has been organised by the Hongkong Police is an automatic test for learner drivers. On a board are different traffic signs with numbers and numbered answers. But the answers may be under the wrong sign. If the operator pushes the right sign for the right answer, a bell rings. Picture above by staff photographer shows visitors to the exhibition testing their driving knowledge.

Boatman Cross-Examined In Lighters Claim

Cross-examination by Mr Leslie Wright of Leung For-kun, head boatman of Lighter No. 22 which was sunk during the typhoon of September 2, 1953, was continued at the Supreme Court this morning at the hearing of the case between the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., plaintiffs, and Wang Kee and Co., defendants.

Mr Wright alleged that it was Lighter 22, belonging to the Godown Company, which hit a sister lighter, No. 72 and straddled its bows and then shortly afterwards Lighter 72 sank.

This was denied by the witness. The case is being heard by Mr Justice J. R. Greig, who is sitting with the Assessor, Mr J. P. Hewitt, Senior Surveyor of Ships, of the Marine Department. Plaintiffs, represented by the Hon. Leo d'Almeida, QC, and Mr T. A. Skirlock, instructed by Mr R. A. Wadson, of Messrs Deacons, are claiming damages totalling \$70,533.15 from Wang Kee and Co., stevedores, and merchants, of 34-37 Connaught Road Central, arising from the sinking of four of their lighters and damage to three others during the typhoon in the Colony on the early morning of September 2, 1953. Plaintiffs alleged negligence on the part of Wang Kee and Co. are represented by Mr John McNeill, QC, Mr Leslie Wright and Mr

Victor Gittins, instructed by Mr Y. K. Kan, of Messrs Lo and Lo. In their claim, plaintiffs alleged that by the negligence of the defendants, their servants and agents, lighters belonging to defendants were adrift and bore down and collided with plaintiffs' lighters, sinking four and damaging three.

NOT VERY BAD
Leung declared that he knew that the No. 3 Typhoon Signal was hoisted at 2.30 a.m. on September 2 but he did not move his lighter from No. 1 hatch of the Nellore to under the ship's bows until 3.30 a.m. because the weather was not then very bad. Earlier on he had considered the position by the No. 3 lighter a safe one. Witness said he went on duty at midnight, expecting to continue to load cargo and wait for instructions. There were no instructions to continue. He waited until the weather worsened, and then moved his lighter to a safer position.

Leung said that the morning of five lighters together under the bows of the Nellore provided protection.

Mr Wright asked him whether he agreed, as an experienced lighterman, that by shifting his craft to the outside of No. 37 under the bows of the Nellore he would get no protection from any westerly or northwesterly winds.

Witness replied that when he was at the side of the Nellore the mooring ropes were perpendicular. By lying alongside the bows of No. 37 he would still be protected by the Nellore and the ropes would not be perpendicular. Moreover in his new position he would not be in danger of bumping against the side of the Nellore.

Mr Wright pointed out that the three lighters nearest to the wharf under the bows of the Nellore stretched out abreast to the full width of the Nellore's beam so that Leung's lighter being the fifth and the outside one would have the full force of the wind.

Leung said that even if he had remained by the No. 1 hatch he would also have the full force of the wind.

COULDN'T DO IT
Mr Wright put it to the witness that he would not have been so exposed if he had moved between the No. 1 hatch and the stem of the Nellore. Leung said he could not do that in view of the proximity of the other lighters at the bows.

He denied that he was in that position when he got his family off the lighter by having them cross to the other lighters and on to the wharf. Mr Wright put it to him that it was while he was in this

position, after having got his family off the Lighter 22 that the lighter hit Lighter 72, straddled her bows and shortly afterwards sank.

The case is proceeding.

1956 Public Holidays

It was notified in the Gazette today that the following General and School holidays will be observed during 1956: Every Sunday; first week-day, January 1; Monday, January 2, the day following Chinese New Year's Day, Monday, February 13; the Tuesday following Chinese New Year's Day, Tuesday, February 14; Good Friday, Friday, March 18; the day following Good Friday, Saturday, March 19; Easter Monday, Monday, April 2; the Birthday of Her Majesty The Queen, Saturday, April 21; Whit Monday, Monday, May 21; the first week-day, in July, Monday, July 2; the day following Remembrance Sunday, Monday, November 12; Christmas Day, Tuesday, December 25; and the 25th of December, Wednesday, December 28. School holidays: Empire Day, Thursday, May 24.

NATURALISATION

The privilege of British naturalisation has been conferred on the following persons, the Gazette today announced: Miss Cheung King-yin, known as Agnes Cheung (qualified midwife); Mr Ip Chi-chiu (Police "Sub-Inspector"); Mr Dai-ichun Dechu (or Chu) (merchant); Mr Leung Kwai-yeung, known as Leung Sing-yeung (known director); Mr Ko Yin-yue (Chairman, Board of Directors); Mr Abdul Hussein Suleiman, known as Abdul Hussein Seemin (merchant); and Mr Chua Ek-chiam (manager).

MEDICAL BOARD

H.E. the Governor has appointed the following to be Members of the Medical Board for a term of three years, it was announced in the Government Gazette today: Dr. E. L. Lee, Dr. Wu Ta-plan, Professor L. G. Kilborn (vice Professor Gordon King).

BIBLE INCIDENT IN COURT

At Central this morning Charles Joseph O'Neill, who faces committal proceedings for attempted blackmail, asked Mr J. E. Durling whether he could put to the witness he was cross-examining "a personal question."

On receiving permission from the Magistrate, defendant asked Mr R. V. Lederhofer, Managing Director of Shewan, Tomes and Company, "what is your religion?" The reply "Roman Catholic" brought O'Neill to the witness stand in three quick strides and he reached for the Bible.

With the Holy Book in one hand O'Neill pointed out that it was a Protestant Bible and that as a Roman Catholic Mr Lederhofer was not bound to tell the truth.

Taken aback Mr Lederhofer assured the Court that he considered himself under oath. Just as the Magistrate was about to send for a Catholic Bible, the witness interrupted with "I have sworn on two bibles." He held up the Bibles and O'Neill retired saying that he was satisfied.

O'Neill, a 32-year-old teacher of London, is charged with three counts of demanding money with menaces. He is alleged to have, on December 21, 1954, uttered a letter demanding with menaces \$1,000 from George Thomas Palmer, and another \$1,000 from Palmer by letter on December 27, last year. The third charge alleges that he uttered a letter demanding with menaces \$2,500 from Rudolph Victor Lederhofer on December 28, last year.

Detective-Insp. J. S. Howarth is for the Prosecution.

Continuing his cross-examination of Mr Lederhofer from cross-examination, O'Neill asked him whether he recalled how many applications were received in reply to an advertisement.

Witness replied that he could not remember but when defendant put it to him that the records at the South China Morning Post showed over 70 applications he agreed that it was "likely."

"SIFTING"
Asked whether a lot of "sifting" had to be done before the company decided on employing defendant, Mr Lederhofer explained that there was always a great number of replies to advertisements in the Press. "Assuming that there had been 70 replies, 60 might have been discarded through lack of qualifications and of the remaining 10 some three or four might be interviewed."

Q. Did you divulge your intentions in regard to my duties to anyone in the company before going on leave?
A. Yes. The hierarchy of authority were informed of your position and duties.

Asked to pin-point Mr Lederhofer said that Mr Parsons was aware of O'Neill's duties, whether Mr Palmer was also cognisant but he would be astonished if Mr Palmer had no knowledge whatsoever of defendant's duties.

In answer to further questions the witness said that the (adverse) report made by Mr Palmer was requested by Mr Parsons and that he could not remember whether it had been written or verbal.

RESIGNED
"Did Mr Palmer leave your employ shortly after I was dismissed," asked defendant.

Replying an affirmative reply O'Neill pursued with "Was he dismissed or did he resign?" "He resigned."

Asked for the reason of Mr Palmer's resignation, witness hesitated and sought direction from the Magistrate.

Mr D. H. Khan, Senior Revenue Inspector, to be Deputy Chief Preventive Officer; Miss E. S. Booth to be Nursing Sister; Miss F. White to be Sister Tutor.

Appointed Acting Director

H.E. the Governor has appointed Mr C. F. Hamilton, Acting Deputy Director of Civil Aviation, to be Acting Director of Civil Aviation during the absence of Mr Muspratt-Williams, it was announced in the Government Gazette today.

DENTAL BOARD

H.E. the Governor has appointed the following to be Members of the Dental Board for a term of three years, it was announced in the Government Gazette today: Dr. Raymond S.H. Lee, Dr. Lau Tai-chi, Dr. Poon Lam Fung, Dr. Raymond K. W. Tang (Vice Dr. Lita Tsou-ky).

Case For Supreme Court

Orders of certiorari and mandamus were granted by the Full Court this morning to the Attorney-General in an ex-parte application arising out of the dismissal by Mr H. H. B. How, Kowloon Magistrate, of an application by the Director of Commerce and Industry for the forfeiture of 60 tons of gold seized on board the vessel Wing Sang on September 16, 1954.

The Full Court comprised Mr Justice T. J. Gaud (acting Chief Justice) and Mr Justice J. Wicks (acting Puisne Judge).

This morning's application sought (1) an order of certiorari to remove into the Supreme Court and to quash an order purporting to dismiss an application for forfeiture of certain gold of which Yeung Lam-po was the claimant, made by Senior Revenue Inspector J. R. Allen on behalf of the Director of Commerce and Industry, which was the subject of a case heard before Mr H. H. B. How at the Kowloon Magistracy on April 22 last and (2) an order of mandamus for the Magistrate to hear the application.

"BAD IN LAW"

The grounds of the application were that the order of the Magistrate was in law as well as in the face of the record and in the reasons given by his decision, that the application was properly made under Regulation 84 of the Defence Regulations, 1940, and that the Magistrate had jurisdiction to hear the application.

Appearing on behalf of the Attorney-General, Mr J. W. D. Hickley, Crown Counsel, said the circumstances giving rise to the application were as follows: On October 12 last year, an application was made on behalf of the Director of Commerce and Industry for forfeiture of certain gold. The application was made under Regulation 84 of the Defence Regulations. After hearing argument on a preliminary point as to jurisdiction, the Magistrate gave his decision on April 22 this year and by that decision he held he had no jurisdiction and made an order dismissing the application.

Asking the Full Court to grant the application, Mr Hickley cited authorities in support.

Granting the orders in the terms of the application, the Full Court ordered that it be returnable at 10 a.m. on May 18.

Nursing Board

H.E. the Governor has appointed the following to be Members of the Nursing Board for a term of three years. It was announced in the Government Gazette today: Misses Lau Mei-yuk, Grace Hui, Florence Wong, Irene Rose Hasler, and Francis White.

It was also announced that Dr. Daphne Chun had been appointed by the University of Hong Kong to serve as a member of the Nursing Board for three years.

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



"Here's his cowboy gun, Mrs. Briggs—about eight thirty you just shoot him and carry him off to bed!"



MR. LUI KAM-TO

Newspaper Technician Becomes A Playwright

Most people—at one time or another—have been afflicted with the urge to write, and young Lui Kam-to is no exception. The only difference is that Lui, who works on the technical staff of the SCM Post Ltd., has managed to "sell" the efforts of his work to Radio Hongkong.

His one-hour play, "The Tragedy of a Young Violinist," will be heard over the Cantonese network of Radio Hongkong to-morrow evening. Of the roles to be played by Lui's colleagues which include a chief cashier, a composer and a book-binder.

Lui's "urge" began some three months ago when he joined the Drama Group of the SCM Post Association. An avid reader and fan of Chinese plays, he decided to try his hand at being a playwright.

Mr Au Yeung Ping, the Chairman of the Drama Group, saw the completed play one month after Lui's starting, and decided that it was good enough for a public performance. Copies of the manuscript were sent off to Radio Hongkong.

Finally, one day in March a reply was received from Radio Hongkong accepting the play, and fixing a date for its broadcast. The Drama Group enrolled a cast, and began rehearsals which lasted for hours after the day's work was done.

SIMPLE PLOT
The simple plot revolves around a young overseas student who returns to Hongkong to find that his only way of making a living is through his violin. He falls in love with a married woman, whose husband divorces her for paying too much attention to the violinist. The couple announce their intention of getting married, and meet with violent objections from the man's mother. The heroine commits suicide in despair, and the young violinist—heartbroken over his tragedy—gives up what promises to be a budding career as a violin genius.

Lui, who is 22 years of age, is rather dazzled by the success of his work. "I'm just interested in plays, and never thought I'd write one," he said.

Naturally he hopes it will be a success.

Town Planning Board

H.E. the Governor has appointed the following to be Members of the Town Planning Board for a period of one year as from April 1, 1955. It was announced in the Government Gazette today: The Hon. the Director of Public Works (Chairman); the Hon. the Chairman of the Urban Council; the Assistant Director of Public Works (Buildings); the Assistant Director of Public Works (Engineering); Professor R. G. Brown, Mr. S. E. Faber, Mr. C. H. Dill, and Mr. K. H. Hughes (Secretary).

Claimed To Be Reporter

Claiming to be a press reporter, 24-year-old Kwok Hung, alias Kwok, of 57 Sha Po Road, came before Mr. T. Creighton at Kowloon this morning charged with being a suspected person found loitering.

It is alleged that the defendant was found on the night of May 4-5, at the entrance of No. 24 Junction Road with the intention of committing a felony.

Insp. C. L. Smith's application for the defendant to be remanded until May 10, was granted.

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Printed and published by WILLIAM ALICE GRIMHAM for and on behalf of South China Morning Post Limited at 1-3 Wyndham Street, City of Victoria, in the Colony of Hongkong.